

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-10 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03

AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /045 W

----- 112191

R 170656Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9647

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS HELSINKI 311

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID EAGR FI

SUBJ: EXTENSION OF INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 025344

1. SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED WITH RISTO KAUPPI, DIRECTOR OF GENERAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OFFICE IN ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT OF MFA.

2. KAUPPI INDICATED FINNS PLAN TO SUPPORT EXTENSION OF BOTH CONVENTIONS IN TANDEM, BUT THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE A FINAL POSITION ON TWO YEAR EXTENSION PERIOD. FINNS' MAJOR CONCERN IS NEGOTIATION OF NEW WTC CONVENTION.

3. WHILE KAUPPI CONCURRED WITH DEPT POSITION ON TIME CONSUMING ANNUAL EXTENSION DEBATE, HE WAS NON-COMMITTAL OVERALL, AND INDICATED SUBJECT WOULD BE REVIEWED PRIOR TO LONDON MEETING, AND THAT FINNS COULD LIVE WITH EITHER TIME PERIOD, BUT IT PRESSED TO CHOOSE, HE FELT FINAL DECISION WOULD REFLECT PRIMACY OF ULTIMATE NEGOTIATION OF NEW WTC CONVENTION.

(NOTE: FINLAND IS NORMALLY RECEPTIVE TO LDC VIEWS AND COULD BE EXPECTED TO GIVE SYMPATHETIC HEARING TO LDC ARGUMENT PARA 5 REFTEL. THIS WAS NOT DISCUSSED.)

4. KEY MEMBERS OF FINNISH DELEGATION EXPECTED TO BE STATE GRANARY DIRECTOR URPO HOLKKALA AND MFA FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
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DEPARTMENT DIVISION CHIEF MAUNO CASTREN.

5. BOTH MFA AND STATE GRANARY CONCURRED THAT DESPITE SERIOUS ECONOMIC SITUATION IN FINLAND, BUMPER CROP OF GRAINS HARVESTED LAST YEAR MEANS THAT FINLAND WILL HAVE NO PROBLEM MEETING ITS FAC QUOTA.

AUSTAD

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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